



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OCTOGENARIAN SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS FOR TRAFFICKING IN COCAINE

TUCSON – Oseas Mendoza-Cecena, 82, of Nogales, Arizona, was sentenced here to 10 years in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Raner C. Collins. Mendoza-Cecena had pleaded guilty on January 4, 2007 to Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine.

According to court records, on August 8, 2006, Mendoza-Cecena attempted to enter the United States from the Republic of Mexico through the Grand Avenue Port of Entry in Nogales, Arizona. United States Customs and Border Protection agents inspected the 2006 Chevrolet Impala the defendant was driving and discovered approximately 79 kilograms of cocaine concealed within the car. Cecena-Mondoza admitted that he knew there was cocaine in his Impala and that he was to be paid to deliver the cocaine to another person.

After serving his term of incarceration, Judge Collins ordered that Mendoza-Cecena serve a period of five years on supervised release.

The investigation in this case was conducted by United States Customs and Border Protection and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security. The prosecution was handled by Albert L. Kleiner, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-1530-TUC-RCC
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